

## Facts About Grenada

OFFICIAL NAME  
State of Grenada

## LAND

Area: 344 sq km (133 sq mi)  
Capital and largest city: St. George's  
Elevations: highest—

## PEOPLE

Population (1992 est.): 106,000  
Distribution (1980): 60% in St. George's  
Annual growth (1990 est.): 1.2%  
Official language: English  
Major religions: Roman Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Muslim

## EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Literacy (1985): 85%  
Universities (1989): 1  
Hospital beds (1987): 42  
Physicians (1987): 42  
Life expectancy (1990 est.): 73 years  
Infant mortality (1992 est.): 20 per 1,000 live births

## ECONOMY

GDP (1989 est.): \$230 million  
Labor distribution (1990 est.): 35% agriculture, 45% services, 20% manufacturing  
Foreign trade (1990 est.): 80% with United States, Trinidad and Tobago  
Currency: 1 East Caribbean dollar = 100 cents

## GOVERNMENT

Type: independent state  
Government leaders: Prime Minister: Sir Paul Scoones  
Legislature: Parliament  
Political subdivisions: 10 parishes

## COMMUNICATIONS

Railroads (1990): none  
Roads (1986): 999 km (621 mi)  
Major ports: 1  
Major airports: 1

The pope fled to Salerno, where he died in exile. See **HENRY (IV)** of Germany.

**Gregory XIII** (1502-1585) was elected pope in 1572. He had served previously as jurist at the Council of Trent, as legate to Spain, and as cardinal. He is best remembered as founder of the system of seminaries to train Roman Catholic priests, and as father of the Gregorian calendar, which is still in use today (see **GREGORIAN CALENDAR**). **THOMAS P. NEILL and FULTON J. SHEEN**

**GREGORY, LADY** (1852-1932), an Irish playwright, helped launch the renaissance in Irish drama associated with Dublin's Abbey Theatre. She excelled in writing lively dialogue and creating simple, strong dramatic situations. Her best-known plays include *The Rising of the Moon*, *Spreading the News*, and *The Workhouse Ward* (all 1904-1908).

Isabella Augusta Persse was born in County Galway and married Sir William Gregory in 1881. She wrote most of her plays in "Kiltartan," the peasant dialect of her home district. She collected Irish folklore and poetry, pioneered in the use of peasant dialect, and invented the folk history play. Her retelling of the Celtic heroic myths in *Cuchulain of Muirthemne* (1902) and *Gods and Fighting Men* (1904) inspired many Irish writers, including William Butler Yeats and John Millington Synge.

MARTIN MEISEL

**GREGORY, DICK** (1932- ), is an American entertainer who became a civil rights leader. He has passed up many engagements as a comedian to take part in civil rights activities.

Gregory was born in St. Louis. He attended Southern Illinois University. He began his professional career in 1958 as a master of ceremonies at several Chicago nightclubs. He first gained national fame in 1961 for his satirical views on American racial attitudes. Gregory became active in civil rights activities during the 1960's. In the late 1960's and early 1970's, he became an outspoken critic of American military action in Southeast Asia. Gregory wrote several books of racial humor, including *From the Back of the Bus* (1964), *nigger* (1964), and *Write Me In* (1968).

G. ERIC LINCOLN

**GREMLIN** is a small imaginary creature that supposedly causes mechanical problems in airplanes. Some pilots have blamed gremlins for such problems as engine failure, frosted windows, and fuel shortages.

Gremlins may have been originated by British pilots during World War I (1914-1918). They became most famous during World War II (1939-1945). Since then, the term *gremlin* has come to mean a source of trouble in many fields besides aviation.

ALAN DUNDES

**GRENADA**, *grĕh NAY duh*, is an island nation in the West Indies. It lies in the Caribbean Sea, about 90 miles (140 kilometers) north of Trinidad. The nation of Grenada also consists of Carriacou and several other small islands of the Grenadine chain. But the island of Grenada makes up most of the country. A pleasant climate and beautiful scenery and beaches attract many tourists to Grenada. The nation ranks as one of the world's leading producers of nutmeg and other spices.

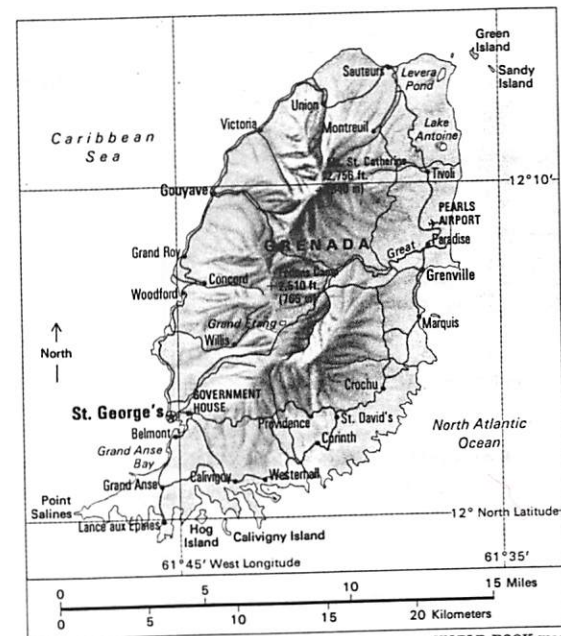
Grenada was a dependency of Great Britain from the late 1700's until 1974, when it gained independence. St. George's is the capital and only sizeable city. About 9,000 persons live there.

**Government.** Grenada is a constitutional monarchy and a member of the Commonwealth of Nations. In

## GRENADA

## Grenada

- ⊙ National capital
- Other city or town
- + Elevation above sea level
- Road

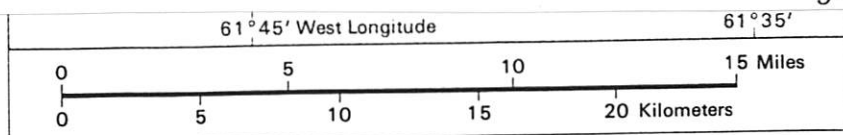


WORLD BOOK map

1979, rebels overthrew Grenada's government, suspended its constitution, and began to rule the country. Before this take-over, the country had a national legislature that consisted of a 15-member House of Representatives and a 13-member Senate. The people elected the

## FACTS IN BRIEF

**Capital:** St. George's.  
**Official Language:** English.  
**Official Name:** State of Grenada.  
**Form of Government:** Constitutional Monarchy.  
**Area:** 133 sq. mi. (344 km<sup>2</sup>). **Greatest Distances**—north-south, 21 mi. (34 km); east-west, 12 mi. (19 km). **Coastline**—75 mi. (121 km).  
**Elevation:** Highest—Mount Saint Catherine, 2,757 ft. (840 m). **Lowest**—sea level.  
**Population:** *Estimated 1980 Population*—98,000; density, 738 persons per sq. mi. (285 per km<sup>2</sup>). *1970 Census*—93,858; *Estimated 1985 Population*, 100,000.  
**Chief Products:** *Agriculture*—bananas, cocoa, mace, nutmeg. *Manufacturing*—food products, beer, rum.  
**National Anthem:** "The Grenada National Anthem."  
**Flag:** The red-bordered flag has a yellow triangle at the top and bottom and a green triangle on each side. A yellow and brown nutmeg represents Grenada's chief product, and seven gold stars symbolize its seven parishes (districts). Adopted 1974. See FLAG (picture: Flags of the Americas).  
**Money:** *Basic Unit*—East Caribbean Dollar.



WORLD BOOK map

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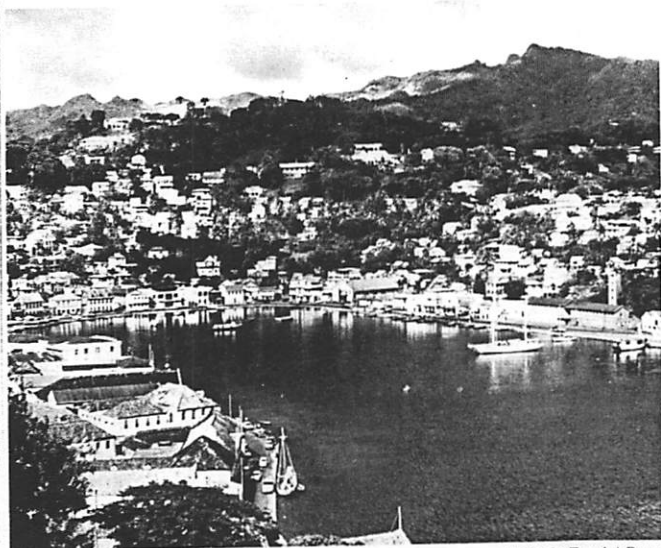
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Grenada Tourist Board

**Saint George's**, the scenic capital of Grenada, lies among thickly forested hills on the island's southwest coast.

members of the House. The head of the majority party of the House served as prime minister, the nation's chief executive. The British monarch appointed a governor general on the advice of the prime minister. The governor general appointed the Senate members, chiefly on the advice of the prime minister and other political leaders.

**People.** About 95 per cent of Grenada's people have African or mixed African and European ancestry. Descendants of East Indians or of Europeans make up the rest of the population. Most Grenadians speak English or a *dialect* (local form) of English. The people of some regions speak a French dialect. More than half the population are Roman Catholics. Other religious groups include Anglicans, Methodists, and Presbyterians.

Grenada has about 60 elementary schools, about 10 high schools, and several vocational schools. The government provides all or some of the funds to support most of these schools. More than 30,000 students are enrolled in elementary or high school in Grenada, but attendance is not required by law.

**Land and Climate.** The mountainous, thickly forested countryside of the island has many gorges and waterfalls. Grand Etang, a lake in the crater of a volcano, lies near the center of Grenada.

Temperatures in Grenada seldom fall below 69° F. (21° C) in winter or rise above 90° F. (32° C) in summer. The annual rainfall averages 60 inches (150 centimeters) on the coast and up to 200 inches (510 centimeters) in the mountains.

**Economy** of Grenada is based chiefly on agriculture and tourism. The nation has few factories. The standard of living remains low because most Grenadians either cannot find work or must work for low wages. The island's chief exports include bananas, cocoa, nutmeg, and a spice called *mace*. Other products include coconut, cotton, limes, and sugar cane. Grenada needs many

products made in other countries, and so it imports more than it exports. St. George's is the chief port, but the country also has several smaller ports.

Great Britain, Canada, and the United States rank as Grenada's leading trade partners. In 1974, Grenada sought to increase trade with its neighbors by joining the Caribbean Community and Common Market, an economic union of 13 nations.

Grenada has about 600 miles (970 kilometers) of roads, most of which are surfaced. The nation has an airport and bus service but no railroads. Two newspapers and a radio station serve the island.

**History.** Arawak Indians were the first people to live in what is now Grenada. During the 1400's, Carib Indians from South America took over the island. In 1498, Christopher Columbus became the first European explorer to land there. He named the island *Concepcion*, but other Europeans later called it Grenada. The Caribs defeated early European attempts to colonize Grenada. In 1650, the Caribs sold the island to the French, who later slaughtered many of the Indians.

Control of Grenada shifted between France and Great Britain several times before the island became a British colony in 1783. Through the years, European planters brought many African slaves to work on plantations there. After the British ended slavery in 1834, many East Indians came to work in Grenada.

In the mid-1900's, the British gave Grenada some control over its own affairs. In the early 1970's, Prime Minister Eric M. Gairy led a movement for independence. Political unrest developed because some groups opposed independence and accused Gairy of becoming a dictator. Grenada gained independence in 1974. Gairy served as prime minister of the new nation until 1979, when rebels overthrew his government. The rebels set up a new government and named Maurice Bishop prime minister.

GUSTAVO A. ANTONINI

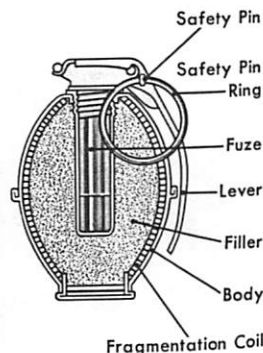
See also GRENADINES; SAINT GEORGE'S; WEST INDIES.

**GRENADINE**, *gruh NAYD*, is a small explosive bomb that may be thrown, or may be fired from a rifle. *Fragmentation* grenades contain a notched wire coil that shatters into many pieces when the grenades explode. *Chemical* grenades are filled with gas, smoke, or white

U.S. Army



**Fragmentation Grenades** scatter chunks of flying metal when they explode. A soldier, left, pulls out the safety pin and holds down the lever before he throws the grenade.



phosphorus. *Illuminating* grenades are used at night to light up land areas.

Grenades were used in the 1400's. In the 1600's and 1700's, specially trained men called *grenadiers* used them. Today, they are a common weapon of all infantry soldiers.

JOHN D. BILLINGSLEY

See also BOMB; CATAPULT; FRAGMENTATION.

**GRENADINES** make up a chain of small and mostly uninhabited islands in the West Indies. The group includes about 600 islands. They stretch across the Caribbean Sea for 60 miles (97 kilometers), between St. Vincent and Grenada. About 14,000 persons live on the islands. Most of them raise cotton or cattle, or work as seamen. The government is divided between Grenada and St. Vincent. People from larger Caribbean islands settled in the Grenadines during the 1600's. The islands became a British territory in 1763. In 1974, Grenada and the Grenadine Islands it controls gained independence from Britain.

The official name of the Grenadines is *Grenadine Islands*. Carriacou, famous for its sea-island cotton, is the largest island, with an area of 13 square miles (34 square kilometers). The islands cover about 30 square miles (78 square kilometers).

W. L. BURN

**GRENDÉL**. See BEOWULF.

**GRENFELL, SIR WILFRED THOMASON** (1865-1940), a British medical missionary, became known as *Grenfell of Labrador*. He helped establish hospitals, orphanages, nursing stations, schools, and cooperative stores in the cold, bleak regions near the Arctic Circle.

Grenfell was born in Cheshire, England. He studied medicine at Oxford University and the London Hospital. He entered the medical service of the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen in 1889, and sailed on fishing cruises from the Bay of Biscay to Iceland.

In 1892, Grenfell was sent with hospital supplies to explore living conditions in Labrador and Newfoundland. He found much illness, especially beriberi and tuberculosis, and no doctors. He treated more than 900 patients within three months. For the next 40 years, Grenfell served the people as surgeon, scientist, sailor, and explorer. Grenfell's program of mercy continues to operate today through the International Grenfell Association.

HENRY J. L. MARRIOTT

**GRENOBLE**, *gruh NOH bul* (pop. 166,037; met. area pop. 389,088), is a city in the Alpine region of southeastern France. It lies beside the Isère River, about 60 miles (97 kilometers) southeast of Lyon and 45 miles (72 kilometers) west of the Italian border (see FRANCE [political map]). The city's factories produce kid gloves, paper, cement, and metal products. Tourism is also an important industry. The University of Grenoble, founded in 1339, is one of France's leading universities.

**GRENVILLE, GEORGE**. See REVOLUTIONARY WAR IN AMERICA (The Navigation Acts).

**GRENVILLE, SIR RICHARD** (1541-1591), an English naval commander, led Sir Walter Raleigh's first colonizing expedition to America. He helped establish the first English colony in North America, on Roanoke Island, in 1585. This settlement was abandoned, and the surviving colonists returned to England with Sir Francis Drake in 1586 (see DRAKE, SIR FRANCIS; LOST COLONY; RALEIGH, SIR WALTER).

Grenville also commanded a squadron against the

Spanish Armada in 1588 (see ARMADA). In 1591, he took part in an expedition under Lord Thomas Howard to intercept a Spanish treasure fleet near the Azores Islands. A large Spanish fleet surprised the expedition off the island of Flores. Howard refused to fight against such odds, and sailed away. Grenville stayed and was killed in the fight. His brave effort made him famous as an outstanding example of the fighting spirit of great Elizabethan naval heroes.

Grenville was born near Bideford, Devonshire. He was knighted in 1571.

JAMES G. ALLEN

**GRESHAM'S LAW** states the principle that "bad money tends to drive good money out of circulation." The law is named after Sir Thomas Gresham (1519?-1579), founder of the Royal Exchange in London. But he was not the first to notice the obvious fact that if a person has two gold coins of the same face value, and one of them is heavier, the person will probably save the heavy one and spend the light one.

As early as the 1200's, dishonest dealers shaved the edges of gold coins. Those who received these lightweight coins would usually pass them along as soon as possible, and keep the full-weight coins as long as they could. Gresham stated this principle as follows:

Where by legal enactment a government assigns the same nominal value to two or more forms of circulatory medium whose intrinsic values differ, payments will always, as far as possible, be made in that medium of which the cost of production is least, the more valuable medium tending to disappear from circulation.

In 1896, for example, American owners of gold coins hoarded them because there was a chance that silver coins might legally be made equal in value to gold coins. Also, during the period just after World War I, so much paper money was used in Europe that metal coins all but disappeared.

LEONARD C. R. LANGER

**GREтна GREEN** is a village in Scotland noted for the runaway marriages which were formerly performed there. It lies in Dumfries and Galloway Region, just over the English border. Couples in England who wanted a quick marriage eloped to Gretna Green. There they had only to make their promises to a clergyman in the presence of witnesses. An act of parliament abolished the practice in 1856. Marriages in Scotland were made illegal unless one of the parties had lived in Scotland for 21 days. Any town to which couples go to be married in haste is sometimes called *Gretna Green*.

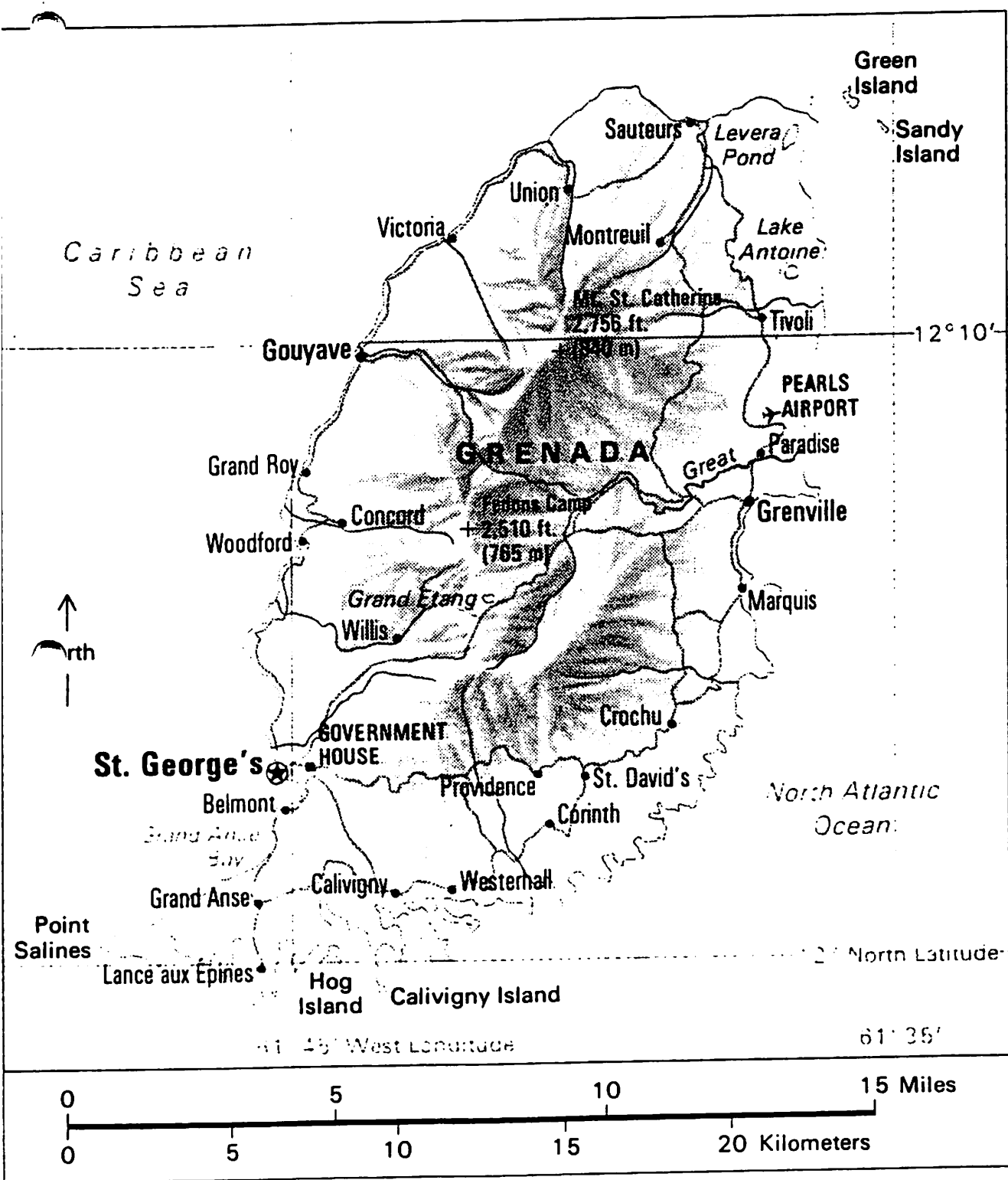
CLARENCE D. THORPE

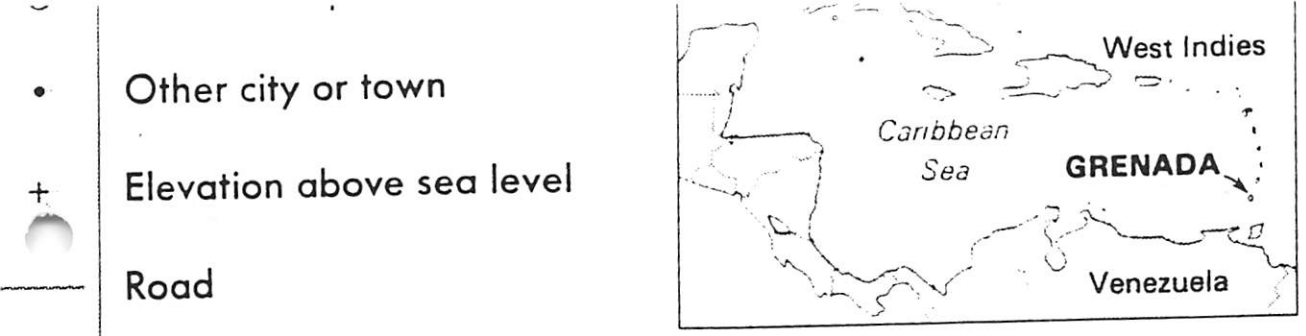
**GREUZE, gruz, JEAN BAPTISTE** (1725-1805), was a French painter known for his scenes of moral family life. His paintings reflected the rising influence of middle-class morality in France before the French Revolution. Pictures such as *The Father's Curse* and *The Prodigal Son* made him popular all over Europe. Many of his pictures of young girls hint at moral weakness as well as virtue. He was also known for his portraits.

Greuze was born in Tournus. His popularity began in the 1750's and continued until the French Revolution. After the revolution, his sentimental style became unfashionable and he died in poverty.

JOSEPH C. SLOANE

**GREW, JOSEPH CLARK** (1880-1965), served as the United States ambassador to Japan during the years before the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. A





# Grenada

